165. Grant of proper representation to the unrepre backward communities in the public service in representative institutions.

ter and nature Cutcherry or stion you have ters on which

MR. M. K. GOVINDAN (*Member, Nominated*) sai ntlemen like the existing rules of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, onl hings with- sons were competent to vote and to be elected as members ters which land-tax of not less than Rs. 50 per annum. This was a qualification and it resulted in the exclusion of many of the and depressed classes from voting at the elections and from advance- members of the Assembly. The Sri Mulam Popular Assemby in effect an assembly not of the poor but of the rich. The rules Group be suitably modified so as to throw open the Assembly to all cl med- people, both rich and poor. also

The rules of the Legislative Council were also exclusive thoughuca- in the same measure. It was the direct result of these rules that m, Ezhavas could not hold their own against other communities in elecies to the Council. These rules should therefore be modified and suffra should be granted to every tax-payer, be the amount of the tax he pa ever so small,

So far as the public service was concerned, unrepresented and poorly represented communities should be given equal representation with other communities.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Govindan, there are bound to be inequalities in any system of franchise which is based on a property or educational qualification. There are several forms of elective principles such as proportional representation, communal representation, election by electoral colleges, and so on. Not one of these is suitable to the conditions of Travancore and the present one has been adopted since it is the least defective. It does not operate so badly when we realise that there are correctives which may be applied by a system of n tions in addition to the system of elections and I do not think that the vas have any reason to complain that they have not been adequately represented so far as the Council is concerned. In the Assembly the thing which counts is, the knowledge, experience and the respect that the representative commands and also his personality. I think one half of the number of good representatives is sometimes much better than double the number of indifferent representatives. So, on the whole, I think it works out fairly, and I am sure that as people get more and more experience in exercising their electoral right in Travancore a system will evolve when everybody will be content.

166. Desirability of Government exercising stricter scrutiny over the disposal of applications for appointment from qualified members of the unrepresented classes.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the policy adopted by Government in regard to appointments in the public service was a ve praise-worthy one. This policy was being closely adhered to

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